In the Claims

Applicant presents a full set of claims showing markups of the claims with insertions and deletions indicated by underlining (or double bracketing) and strikethrough text, respectively.

1. (Original) A method for inducing apoptosis in a cell comprising
reducing expression or activity of one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the expression of the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules is reduced by contacting the cell with a siRNA specific for the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules,
preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1, Mad2, Bub3 or CENP-E.

3.-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the activity of the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules is reduced by contacting the cell with an antibody that binds to the mitotic checkpoint molecule,
optionally wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of monoclonal antibodies, human antibodies, humanized antibodies, chimerized antibodies, and antigen-binding fragments thereof,
preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1, Mad2, Bub3 or CENP-E.

8.-12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein activity is reduced by contacting the cell with a molecule that inhibits kinase activity of the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules,
preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A method for treating cancer or a hyperproliferative cell disease comprising:

administering to a subject in need of such treatment an effective amount of an agent that reduces expression or activity of one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the expression of the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules is reduced by administering a siRNA specific for the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules, preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1, Mad2, Bub3 or CENP-E.

17.-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the activity of the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules is reduced by administering an antibody that binds to the mitotic checkpoint molecule,

optionally wherein the antibody is selected from the group consisting of monoclonal antibodies, human antibodies, humanized antibodies, chimerized antibodies, and antigen-binding fragments thereof,

preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1, Mad2, Bub3 or CENP-E.

22.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15, wherein activity is reduced by administering a molecule that inhibits kinase activity of the one or more mitotic checkpoint molecules,

preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein an anti-cancer therapy is used in combination with the agent,

preferably wherein the anti-cancer therapy is chemotherapy,

optionally wherein the chemotherapy is one or more microtubule poison drugs, and wherein the chemotherapy is not co-administered with the agent.

30.-45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently amended) A composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a siRNA specific for a mitotic checkpoint molecule,

preferably wherein the mitotic checkpoint molecule is BubR1, Mad2, Bub3 or CENP-E.

47.-53. (Canceled)

54. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 46 ~~any of claims 46-53~~, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.